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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re U.S. Patent Application of

NEUSS *et al.*

Serial Number: 09/806,758

Filed : August 20, 2002

For: RADIALLY EXPANDABLE VESSEL SUPPORT

Attorney Docket No. THIE.0009

Art Unit 3738

Examiner

Stewart, Alvin J.

**Honorable Assistant Commissioner
for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231**

COVER LETTER

Sir:

[x] The fee for submission of claims is calculated as shown below:

FOR	TOTAL WITH NEW CLAIMS ADDED	TOTAL CURRENTLY ON FILE	CLAIMS PAID	RATE	CALCULATION
Total Claims	21	21	¹ (Over 20)	x \$50	0
Independent Claims	1	1	-XX (Over 3)	x \$200	0
MULTIPLE DEPENDENT CLAIM(S)				+ \$360	0
REDUCTION FOR FILING BY SMALL ENTITY (note 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.9, 1.27, 1.28). IF APPLICABLE, VERIFIED STATEMENT MUST BE ATTACHED				x ½	
				TOTAL	0.00

In addition, the below-identified communications are submitted in the above-captioned application or proceeding:

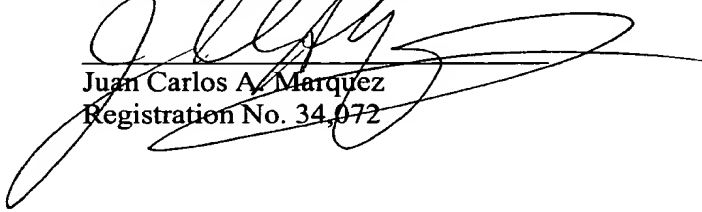
[x] Response to Office Action
(with Claim Amendments)
[] Substitute Specification
[] Preliminary Amendment
[] Other _____

[] Petition for Extension of Time
[] Terminal Disclaimer
[] Letter to Draftsperson
[] Assignment
[] Petition under _____

- [] Please charge my **Deposit Account Number** _____ in the amount of _____ to cover the fees for . A duplicate copy of this paper is enclosed.
- [] A check in the amount of **\$0.00** to cover the fee is enclosed.
- [x] The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees associated with this communication, including fees under 37 C.F.R. § 1.16 and 1.17, or credit any overpayment to **Deposit Account Number 08-1480**.

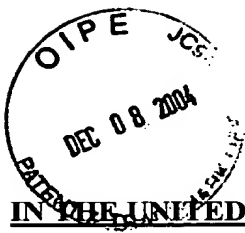
Respectfully submitted,

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December 8, 2004



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**Honorable Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231**

RESPONSE AND AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.116

Sir:

This is in response to the Office Action mailed on September 8, 2004, the period of response to which is set to expire on December 8, 2004. Please amend the above-referenced application as follows: